WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A flexibly-stiffened electrical cable, comprising:

a flexible cable adapted to transmit electrical signals along a longitudinal direction, the cable nonlinearly formed in a lateral direction.

2. The electrical cable of Claim 1, wherein the cable comprises a ribbon cable.

3. The electrical cable of Claim 1, further comprising at least one nonlinear stiffening support member laterally secured to the cable.

4. The electrical cable of Claim 1, further comprising a nonlinear stiffening support member coupled to each side of the cable.

5. The electrical cable of Claim 1, wherein the cable is disposed in at least one of a scanner, a copy machine, and a printer.

6. The electrical cable of Claim 1, further comprising a plurality of intermittently disposed nonlinear stiffening support members laterally coupled to the cable.

7. The electrical cable of Claim 1, further comprising a nonlinear stiffening support member adhesively secured to the cable in the lateral direction.

8. The electrical cable of Claim 1, wherein the cable is molded having a nonlinear configuration in the lateral direction.

9. The electrical cable of Claim 1, further comprising a nonlinear stiffening support member coupled to the cable in the lateral direction, the stiffening support member flexible in the longitudinal direction.

10. The electrical cable of Claim 1, further comprising a nonlinear stiffening support member coupled to opposite ends of the cable.

11. An imaging device, comprising:

an image capturing device movable along a longitudinal direction; and

a flexible cable communicatively coupled to the image capturing device, the cable nonlinearly formed in a lateral direction.

12. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises a ribbon cable.

13. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises at least one nonlinear stiffening support member laterally secured thereto.

14. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises a plurality of oppositely disposed nonlinear stiffening support members.

15. The device of Claim 11, wherein the imaging system comprises at least one of a scanner, a copy machine, and a printer.

16. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises a plurality of intermittently and laterally disposed nonlinear stiffening support members.

17. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises a nonlinear stiffening support member adhesively secured thereto in the lateral direction.

18. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable is molded having a nonlinear configuration in the lateral direction.

19. The device of Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises a nonlinear stiffening support member laterally coupled thereto, the stiffening support member flexible in the longitudinal direction.

20. A linearly stiffened electrical cable, comprising:

flexible means for transmitting electrical signals along a longitudinal direction; and

means for nonlinearly forming the flexible means for transmitting the electrical signals in a lateral direction.

21. The cable of Claim 20, wherein the means for stiffening comprises at least one nonlinear stiffening support means laterally secured to the flexible means for transmitting the electrical signals.

22. The cable of Claim 20, wherein the means for stiffening comprises a plurality of intermittently and laterally disposed nonlinear stiffening support means coupled to the flexible means for transmitting the electrical signals.

23. The cable of Claim 20, wherein the means for stiffening comprises a semi-rigid outer jacket disposed about the flexible means for transmitting the electrical signals.

24. The cable of Claim 20, wherein the means for stiffening comprises a nonlinear stiffening support means adhesively secured in the lateral direction to the flexible means for transmitting the electrical signals.

25. An imaging device, comprising

an image capturing device;

a flexible electrical conduit coupled to the image capturing device, the conduit adapted to accommodate movement of the image capturing device in a longitudinal direction; and

a support member disposed relative to the conduit to prevent buckling of the conduit during the longitudinal movement of the image capturing device.

26. The imaging device of Claim 25, wherein the support member comprises a nonlinearly formed support member.

27. The imaging device of Claim 25, wherein the support member comprises a nonlinear configuration laterally disposed relative to the electrical conduit.

28. The imaging device of Claim 25, wherein the support member is disposed corresponding to an internal bend radius of the electrical conduit.

29. The imaging device of Claim 25, wherein the support member is disposed relative to the electrical conduit to provide bend relief between the support member and the electrical conduit.